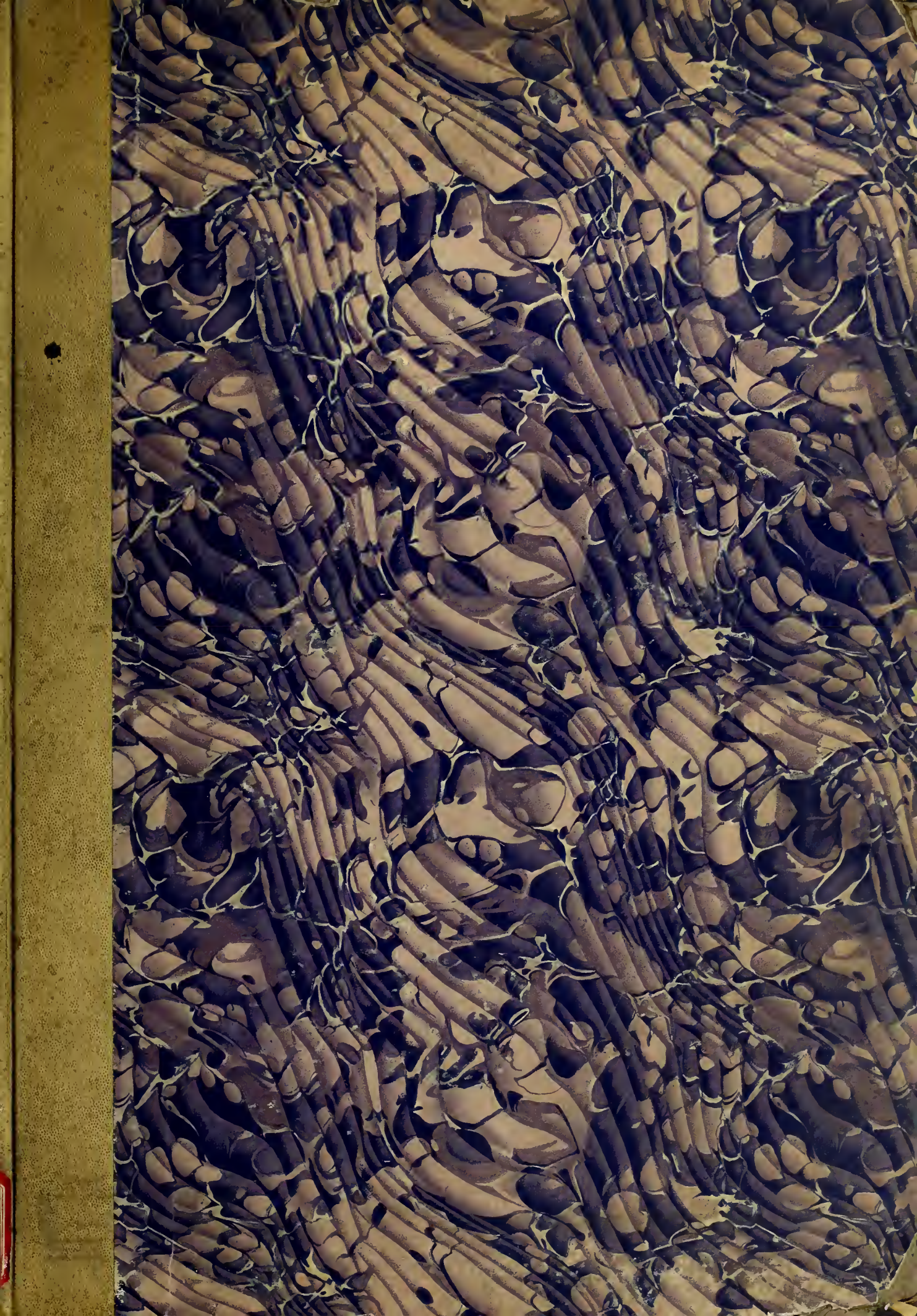




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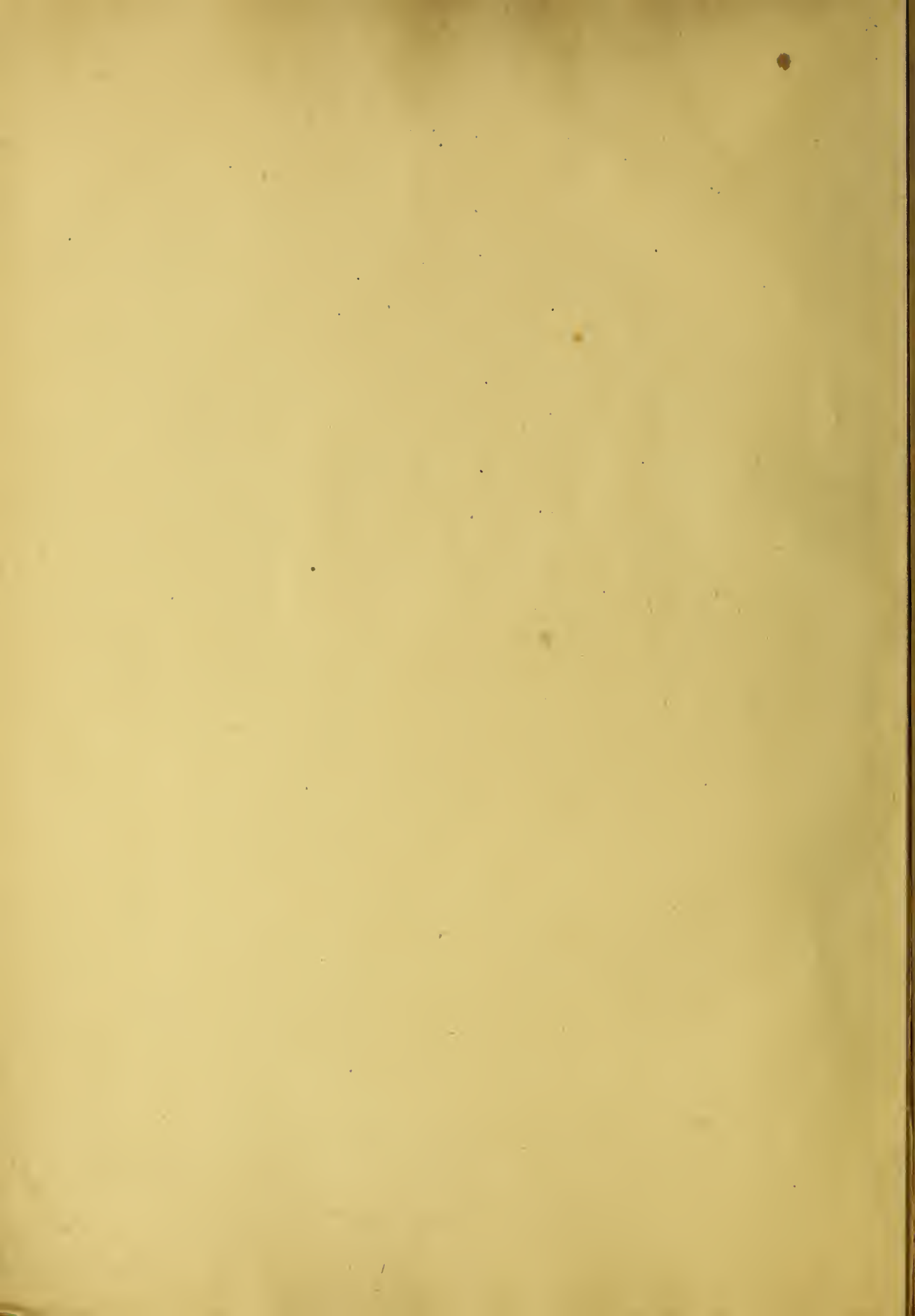
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FEB 23

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1816

CENTENNIAL BOOK

1916

OF THE

"Parish of St. Matthew's in Boston"

INCORPORATED JUNE 20, 1816



ERECTED 1860

CONSECRATED 1865

ENLARGED 1866

Officers in 1916

Rector: THE REV. JAMES SHEELIN

Senior Warden: JOHN C. CLAPP

Junior Warden: DANIEL E. BRYAN

Clerk: THOMAS J. KING

Treasurer: MRS. CAROLINE H. NICHOLSON

Vestrymen

JOHN C. CLAPP, JR.

JAMES LEWIS

J. EDWARD CRANE

THOMAS E. McMURRAY

GEORGE RAYMOND HALE

ROBERT S. ROGERS

ROBERT KIRSHAW

JOHN H. WALKER

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CITY OF BOSTON

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OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON



ST. MATTHEW'S AS IT WAS IN 1853.

Built in 1817 — Rebuilt in 1831.

Picture painted by Henry B. Kelley, and presented to the Parish
March 31, 1916.

[This and also other photographs are by the kindness of J. E. Purdy.]



"FLASHLIGHT" OF THE VESTRY IN SESSION.

Read from left to right:—McMurray, Walker, Rogers, Clapp Jr., Mrs. Nicholson, King, Clapp Sr., Sheerin, Bryan, Lewis, Crane, Kershaw, Hale.
 Dr. Chamber's portrait is on extreme left. Painting on left of mirror is Rev. E. M. P. Wells; on right is Dr. Church, who is also under the chandelier; Thomas Hill is in round frame on right.



THE PRESENT RECTOR (1916).



THE RECTORY (under X), 530 BROADWAY, SOUTH BOSTON.



THE CHOIR AND CHANCEL.

HISTORICAL SKETCHES.

THE ORIGIN.

An early record runs thus: "This Church, by the blessing of Almighty God, was originally formed from a number of pious individuals, who were desirous of worshipping God in spirit and in truth in the Episcopal manner."

THE FIRST SERVICE is entered: "South Boston, Sunday, March 31st, 1816. Divine service was performed this day in the Episcopal manner for the first time, and a sermon read by Mr. Cotting, in the school house."

The only school house then in South Boston was at G and Third Streets, holding about seventy-five people. Thirty and forty are given as the attendance in the first services.

ORGANIZATION.

John R. Cotting was a lay reader without salary. The first clergyman to hold service, the date being May 12, was the Rev. George S. White, who assisted in preparing a petition for incorporation and a constitution and by-laws. On May 31, 1816, at the home of Abraham Gould, "a caption of a subscription paper" was "offered to the inhabitants of the village for their subscription and approbation." The words in part were "We the subscribers, considering the importance to ourselves, our families, and the rising generation, that a Church should be established in this place, do agree to form ourselves, with such others as may be induced to associate with us, an Episcopal Church and congregation by the name of St. Matthew's Church and Parish." The first signers include names yet familiar in Boston: Abraham Gould, Joseph Stokes, John Pronk, John G. Plumbach, Joseph Woodward, Peter Sanere, James Baxter, John Graff, Richard M. Fisher, Job Briant, Joshua Barrett, Edmund Ingalls, Mansfield Burrell, Jeremiah H. Hartford, Seth L. Cole, Barber Brooks, John Deluce, Daniel Hobbs, Charles F. Kupfer, John Fisher, — Emmet, William Brown, James F. Shipley, Thomas Gautier, Danforth Shipley, William Sommers, James Andem, Robert Johnson, Reuben Gould, Jabez Wilson, Elijah Harris, Joseph Harris, Francis B. Lemale, Robert P. Williams, Josiah Dunham. Later among other names added were Shubael Bell, Jacob Rogers and Henry Trumbull.

FIRST OFFICIALS AND INCORPORATION.

On June 4, 1816, the Rev. George S. White opened with prayer, Shubael Bell acted as clerk,

Abraham Gould as "moderator." Formal action was taken as to name and a petition for incorporation. Joseph Woodward and Abraham Gould were elected wardens, Robert P. Williams later taking the place of Mr. Woodward. Shubael Bell, William Brown, Josiah Dunham, Robert Johnson, Charles F. Kupfer and Dr. John Pronk were elected vestrymen. Mr. Bell gave a Prayer Book, Judge Thomas Dawes, of the Probate Court, a Bible. At a meeting, June 24, John R. Cotting reported that the Act of Incorporation had passed and was signed by the Governor of the State June 20, and that it endowed "this Church with liberal and ample powers."

FIRST SINGING AND COMMUNION.

The record reads: "June 23, 1816, Singing for the first time this day." A bass viol was the first "organ," and a pulpit was ordered at the same time. June 30, 1816, the 3d Sunday after Trinity, the Rev. Asa Eaton, rector of Christ Church, came over "and administered the Holy Communion to twenty-one persons, being the first time that the Sacrament was ever administered in this part of Boston."

BUILDING AND REBUILDING.

September 1, 1817, at the home of Josiah Dunham, it was decided to build a Church on a lot "sixty feet square," on the south side of Broadway just below E Street. The same afternoon, "trenches were laid out." Two months later it was decided to sell rights to erect tombs on either side of the Church. This privilege and the sale of pews brought in some revenue, but were also fertile causes for future trouble. The Church, though not finished, was first used Christmas Day, 1817, the sermon being preached by Dr. Gardiner, rector of Trinity, with a seasonable text, "Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, good will toward men." 70 people were present. The building cost of \$6,555.24 being paid, consecration took place St. John Baptist Day, June 24, 1818. Bishop Alexander Viets Griswold, bishop of all New England, except Connecticut, preached the sermon. The rectors of Trinity and Christ Churches assisted. "A large number of communicants" were present from both those Churches, bringing gifts. Trinity ladies, whose names are in St. Matthew's records, and include Amorys, Brimmers, etc., gave "a communion table, desk and pulpit," with suitable cushions, a cover for the altar, and curtains for the gallery.

The "Old North Church" gave "a flagon, two cups, two dishes, and a baptismal bason made of Britannia ware," as well as furnishing the singers that day. Other clergy present were Messrs. Carlisle of Salem, Kearney of New York, and Howe, a deacon. After service all "were invited to a collation at the house of Mr. A. Gould, the senior warden."

Faneuil Hall bell was presented by the Boston selectmen April 21, 1819, for use in calling to fires or to Church! It is still rung for services and legal holidays, as recast in 1865 for the present building.

In 1831, the Church, a brick and stone edifice, was considerable enlarged, to hold 300 people, and stood thereafter till 1860 as we see it in Mr. Henry B. Kelley's painting. At the reopening, Dec. 12, 1831, a number of men were present who attained great distinction in the Church, *e.g.*, the Rev. George Washington Doane, D.D., then at Trinity Church and, later, Bishop of New Jersey; the Rev. Alonzo Potter, D.D., then at St. Paul's, and later, as Bishop of Pennsylvania, perhaps the greatest bishop in America. The usual fraternal relationship of Christ Church was seen in the presence of its rector, the Rev. William Croswell. The Rev. Thomas W. Coit, later famous as founder of St. Paul's School, Concord, N. H., was also a guest, and Bishop Griswold preached and blessed the Church, as he had done in 1818.

In 1860, the present lot of land, 140 by 70 feet, was bought at 80 cents a foot, and a new wooden Church erected to hold 450 people. David Clapp, Edward H. Brainard, William W. Allen, Thomas Hill and James Wood were the building committee. The old church was closed December 16, 1860, and sold to the masonic fraternity, but demolished not long afterward, leaving, in spite of its disputed tombs, a memory more attractive than its successor can hope to win. The new building was consecrated May 11, 1865. It had to be enlarged in 1866, services being held three months in the Congregational Church. With forty-six new pews, the seating capacity was, as at present, including the gallery, 650. The organ was put in during 1867.

It was in this period, from 1860 to 1890, that St. Matthew's was at the height of its prosperity. A new population, less American and less prosperous, as well as less inclined toward an Episcopal Church, was rapidly coming in, making the struggle more one of continued sustenance than of splendid growth. There are more people who call themselves Episcopalians than there ever were, no doubt, but their ability and willingness to sup-

port a prosperous Church are greatly reduced. Nevertheless, something has been done, as, for example, under the Rev. Albert E. George in 1895, the handsome rectory at 530 Broadway, in memory of James F. and Agnes H. Smith, who had long lived there; and the expenditure of some \$3,000 in 1903 under the Rev. William H. Dewart to make the chancel more churchly and convenient.

As an example of history repeating itself, Trinity Church, which had been a benefactor of St. Matthew's in its earlier days, in various small but important ways, presented four brass chandeliers, two of which are still in use. "The Phillips Brooks Rectory," the name given the Rector's home by its donor, Mrs. Agnes H. Smith, is another perpetual tie with the chief parish of Boston. But to stop with the material things and say nothing of social and spiritual helpfulness would be unfair to the better work of present day St. Matthew's. It is probably true that, as its wealth grew less, its opportunity to be of use in manifold Christian ways increased. The district of South Boston growing more city-like, in the worse sense of such growth, meant unfortunately that more and more people suffered for the want of good food, fresh air and health, and a faithful effort has been made to reduce physical suffering and enlarge the opportunities for helpful recreation among a people too poor to do much themselves. With this practical benevolence has gone an earnest effort to keep up heart and hope against every deteriorating moral or social influence, and to reach out a hand of friendship in every lonely place. Statistics cannot do justice to this sort of work. Suffice it to say that such conditions render the Church more permanently needed than if it were surrounded by a fortunate and prosperous people. No one with social vision of what the kingdom of God means would be willing for a moment to let the Church cease to exist in such an environment. Nor would he willingly cripple it in funds and plans tending to make life purer and richer in the community at large.

A CENTURY OF RECTORS.

Bishop Griswold was elected the first rector, but, aside from the compliment, and a degree of legal protection, this meant that the wardens and vestry were directly responsible and that lay-readers and visiting clergymen did the work, aided by friendly coöperation of the two chief pastors of the city, the rectors of Christ Church and Trinity. At the outset, the Rev. Geo. S. White aided, as already mentioned, and the Rev. J. B. Howe and

the Rev. P. H. Folker had more extended appointments as missionaries. But in 1824 the Rev. J. L. Blake was made actual rector, and he served into 1832. His rectorship resulted in substantial growth, requiring enlargement of the building in 1831. His literary and scholarly attainments were considerable, his works on science being used as text-books in schools and colleges.

The Rev. M. A. DeWolfe Howe, a family connection of Mr. Blake's, was confirmed April 25, 1830, while master of the Hawes School. He read services at various times, and, after ordination, was appointed rector pro-tem in 1832. Various omissions of services, or services by "supplies," followed him for a time.

The Rev. E. M. P. Wells was rector 1834-5, retiring on account of increasing school work.

The Rev. Horace L. Connolly was ordained priest in St. Matthew's, St. Peter's Day, 1835, and served as rector until 1838.

The Rev. Joseph Hart Clinch was rector from September 23, 1838, to March 17, 1860. His was the central rectorship of the parish history, and it was successful in more ways than being the longest in service. To this day his influence is felt, not only in the parish but in more general ways, because of his long service until death, in 1884, as chaplain of the House of Correction and secretary of the Diocesan Convention. He published numerous excellent poems, among them one known as the "Parish Hymn":

The Church to Thee, O God,
Unfolds her joys and cares;
Bow down Thine ear, O Lord, and hear
Our praises and our prayers.

The Rev. Frederick Wilson returned to England after a brief but brilliant rectorship of less than a year, 1860-61, perhaps depressed by the terrible civil war then beginning.

The Rev. J. I. T. Coolidge, who had been a promising Unitarian minister, was called in November, 1861, and served successfully until 1873, resigning to become head master of St. Mark's School, Southborough. Born in 1817, he died in Cambridge in 1914, nearly as old as the Church, and respected by all the congregation.

The Rev. John Wright took charge February 1, 1874, and resigned in 1887, after thirteen years and five months of extraordinary success in the parish. Among other material improvements was the expenditure of \$5000 to make the basement usable for Sunday School and other meetings. The two South Boston mission churches were begun "both in humble ways from this parish," as he said in his farewell sermon, when all three con-

gregations joined to do him honor. He noted the fact that he and two of his predecessors had served the parish forty-seven years, nearly half a century, which he rightly took as proof that the old church was neither fickle nor quarrelsome. His books on Altars, Bibles and Prayer Books are recognized as scholarly and authoritative.

The Rev. Albert E. George had the next longest rectorship to Dr. Clinch's, serving from 1887 to 1902.

The Rev. William H. Dewart served about a year and a half, 1902-3, going from St. Matthew's to Hyde Park. He is now rector of "The Old North Church," so kindly a nursing mother to this parish in its first decade or two.

The Rev. Ernest N. Bullock was rector 1904-1910, and is now archdeacon of New Mexico.

The Rev. James Sheerin took up the work March 1, 1911.

It is not a long list—ten actual rectors,—but it is an honorable record, with the anglican traditions of literature and scholarship prevailing. Faults they undoubtedly had, but against none was there a breath of scandal or a charge of insincerity. They counted nothing so great as that "Christ is preached" and men made ready for the coming of the kingdom.

LAYMEN WHO HELPED.

Not all the laymen who helped loyally are recorded, and even those whose names are preserved are too numerous to repeat here. But it is noteworthy that certain names stand out more prominently than others, and a few of them are still to be found in church work, either in this parish or in some other. William Cranch Bond was an official and vestryman in the twenties. A descendant is now in business on Beacon St., and is also a grandson of the Rev. Dr. Clinch. Thomas Cairns was a pewholder and vestryman in the earliest days, and a descendant, Joseph C. Storey, not only held office but when he died in 1914 left the parish, as an endowment, \$10,000. Dudley A. Tyng was a pewholder in the twenties, and the name is familiar to-day as that of clergymen in missionary work of the church in China and Japan. G. R. Bartlett, Peter Pray and John Sowden were early vestrymen whose names loom large in later Boston business and ecclesiastical life. Among earlier wardens are Barnum Field, Samuel Huddleston, Dr. John B. Stebbins, and, beginning in the forties, and for a large part of the time until his death in 1896, Henry W. Nelson, whose son, the Rev. H. W. Nelson, D.D., now retired, was an eminent rector in Western New York, repre-

sending it in the General Convention for fifteen years. The Hon. S. H. Jenks, who was senior warden in 1849, and held other offices in the parish, was the grandfather of our present most efficient treasurer, one of the few women officials of an organized parish in the United States, whose husband, William C. Nicholson, was treasurer several years and vestryman, and before that vestryman and warden of the Church of the Messiah, Boston. Among early clerks are Jacob and Josiah L. C. Amee, J. W. Whitman, Jos. L. Hammond, Joseph Smith, Freeman Hunt, George Haliburton, Thomas Nickerson, E. M. Royce, C. H. White, Lewis Tucker, E. H. Brainard, and Alexander and Benjamin Pope, some of whom also held other offices. Joseph Hale was treasurer in the early seventies, and his grandson, Geo. Raymond Hale, is now a vestryman. Thomas Hill was a warden when the present church was built, and two of his granddaughters are now teaching in the Sunday School. David Clapp was senior warden for forty-seven years, from 1846 to 1893, except for two or three years when he was junior warden. His son John C. Clapp was clerk thirty-five years, and is now senior warden. John C., Jr., is on the vestry, and is assistant treasurer. Josiah Saville, grandfather of Huntington Saville, and the Rev. Henry Martyn Saville, was a vestryman. Benjamin Dean and Benjamin Pope, members of St. Matthew's, are honored by having public schools called after them.

There are many others living useful lives who got their first righteous impulses in this parish. We remember to-day with regret that some who died in the last two years had longed to be with us at this celebration. Among these we may name Mrs. James Crane, John S. Godfrey, so long a vestryman and once warden, Joseph C. Storey, Elizabeth Barry, and George Lawley, the famous yacht builder, who was buried from this Church March 2, 1915, having lived ninety-three years, and loved by the whole congregation.

LAY READERS WHO ASSISTED.

From its foundation St. Matthew's owes much to lay readers. One of the earliest was M. A. De Wolfe Howe, who became the celebrated bishop of Central Pennsylvania, and was the father of the Rev. Reginald Heber Howe, D.D., of Brookline, one of our most respected Diocesan rectors, and M. A. De Wolfe Howe, of Boston, well known as author and editor. Theodore Edson is prominent among early lay readers. He after-

wards became the greatly esteemed rector of St. Anne's, Lowell. The Rev. A. St. John Chambré, D.D., who came to us from the Universalists, got his first Church training under Dr. Wright, and succeeded Dr. Edson in Lowell. It has, therefore, come to pass that one of the chief parishes of the Diocese received its methods and inspiration from St. Matthew's! The Rev. John Wright had twelve lay readers in his thirteen years rectorship, of whom seven went into the ministry. The Revs. F. Ward Denys, of Washington, D. C., Charles Follen Lee, of North East Harbor, Maine, Alfred F. Washburn and Thomas W. Nickerson were for a time his assistants. The Revs. Reuben Kidner, of Trinity, Boston, Herbert Scott Smith, of Washington, D. C., Charles W. G. Lyon, of Saugus, Lewis Nichols, of Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, and Prof. Warner F. Gookin, of the Episcopal Theological School, served "apprenticeships" in St. Matthew's while students in Cambridge. At the present time, a Harvard senior is in charge of Boy Scouts and a Harvard graduate student assists the rector in the services.

MOTHER OF CLERGYMEN.

Archdeacon Percy C. Webber, who has a national fame as a missionary, was a boy in the parish, and has claimed a home in it until now. The Rev. George F. Degen, who has a school in Portland, Maine, spent his first two years of childhood here. The Rev. William J. Cordick, of Plymouth, Indiana, looks back to St. Matthew's as his home Church. The Rev. Arthur H. Wright of Newburyport, is the adopted son of a former rector. The Revs. Frank Durant of Miles City, Montana, and Harry Wright Perkins of Newcastle, Maine, were St. Matthew's boys. This list is not exhaustive. Besides these, some of the greatest men in the Episcopal Church had connection with the old parish, often in the junior days of their ministry. The Rev. William R. Huntington, D.D., late rector of Grace Church, New York, preached his first sermon in this Church. Bishops Hopkins of Vermont, Howe and Potter of Pennsylvania, H. C. Potter of New York, Doane of New Jersey, F. D. Huntington of Central New York, Randall of Colorado, McVicar of Rhode Island, Griswold, Eastburn, Paddock, Brooks, Lawrence and Babcock of Massachusetts, all preached in St. Matthew's. It is a choir visible and invisible, and through them we may well claim that the influence of our humble Church is national and international.—J. S.



JOSEPH H. CLINCH, 1838-60.

PORTRAITS
OF
SIX



JAMES I. T. COOLIDGE, 1861-73.



JOHN WRIGHT, 1874-87.



ALBERT E. GEORGE, 1887-1901.



WILLIAM H. DEWART, 1902-3.

FORMER
RECTORS

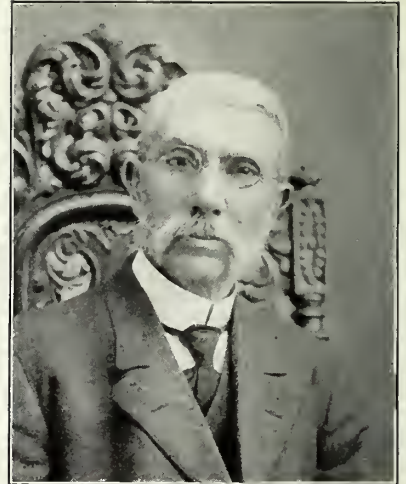


ERNEST N. BULLOCK, 1904-10.



JOHN C. CLAPP, Senior Warden.

FOUR
OFFICERS



DANIEL E. BRYAN, Junior Warden.



Mrs. C. H. NICHOLSON, Treasurer.

IN
1916

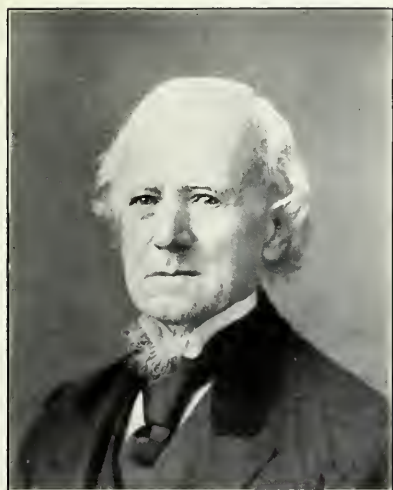


THOMAS J. KING, Clerk.



CHURCH PROPERTY VALUATIONS.

Church at 410 Broadway	\$ 8,000.00
Land, 9,984 feet	17,500.00
Rectory at 530 Broadway, opposite Municipal Building	3,900.00
Land	2,100.00



DAVID CLAPP (born 1806).

FOUR
GENERATIONS



JOHN C. CLAPP (photo in 1882)



JOHN C. CLAPP, Jr.

OF ONE
FAMILY



RICHARD H. CLAPP.

Better than buildings or lands and endowments are the men, women and children of a parish. It is, therefore, fitting to picture here a warden who died in 1893, aged 87, his son now also a warden, a grandson and great-grandson, all loyal members of St. Matthew's. It is a comforting record of continuity in a changeable age.—J. S.

ORGANIZATIONS OF THE PARISH.

Robert Kershaw, choirmaster; Miss Eva L. Moffatt, assistant to rector; B. Vincent Crawford, lay reader; Horace E. Carlisle, sexton.

Miss Mary Blake Horne ended fourteen years of service as parish visitor May 1, 1916.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.—The Rev. James Sheerin, superintendent; Thomas E. McMurray and George D. Emery, assistants; Charles A. Lewis and Lester M. Patriquin, secretaries; Earl Carlisle, librarian; Mrs. C. H. Nicholson, treasurer; Charles Davis Garland, assistant treasurer; Miss Mary Elisabeth Sheerin, pianist.

Teachers.—Florence Barry, Mary Barry, Sadie Barry, George D. Emery, Barbara Fein, Rosetta Garland, Warren F. Hall, Clara E. Hill, Mary E. Hill, Carrie Hutchinson, Edith Hutchinson, Charlotte Johnston, Elizabeth Johnston, Jas. Lewis, Eva L. Moffatt, Ethel Florence Roberts, Mrs. Ernest Rowe, Chas. Willford Sheerin, Mary Elisabeth Sheerin, Raymond S. Simmons, Irene Naomi Smith.

Choir.—John Watts, Albert Watts, Norman Goodwin, Fred Goodwin, Albert Fryette, William Tildsley, Thomas King, Charles Groves, Arthur Roberts, Albert Baxter, Charles J. King, Edwin J. Garland, Sidney Tildsley.

Elizabeth Johnston, Charlotte Johnston, Barbara Bacon, Rosetta Garland, Marguerite Moore, Lydia Fryette, Ethel Roberts, Emily Macura; Eva L. Moffatt, organist.

Men's Club.—Robert S. Rogers, president; Frank Arnold Turner, vice president; Thomas J. King, secretary-treasurer. Meets Thursdays.

Woman's Auxiliary.—Mrs. Mary Picking Sheerin, president; Mrs. Elizabeth Hutchinson, treasurer; Miss Carrie Hutchinson, secretary; Mrs. Caroline Nash Bryan, mite-box treasurer. Third Tuesday.

MOTHERS' MEETINGS.—Mrs. Edwin F. Barnard, leader; Mrs. Mary Roberts Hauley, Mrs. Joseph W. Lane, Mrs. Alexander Lewis, Mrs. Thomas Parr, committee. Thursday afternoons.

GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—Miss Carrie Hutchinson, in charge; associates, Mrs. Anne E. Barnard, Miss Jennie Carmichael, Mrs. Sprague. Monday nights.

KING'S DAUGHTERS.—Mrs. Elizabeth Bowden Lewis, leader; Miss Clara E. Hill, assistant; Mary E. Hill, secretary; Cecilia M. Barnard, treasurer. Wednesdays.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CLUB.—Samuel Fryette, president; Miss Barbara Bacon, vice president; Miss Edith Hutchinson, treasurer; Miss Charlotte Johnston, secretary. Tuesday nights.

ALTAR GUILD.—Miss Carrie Hutchinson in charge; the Misses Clara Hill, Elisabeth Sheerin, Eleanor Simmons, executive committee.

BOY SCOUTS.—H. A. Seranton, scout master; Harold Stephen Collier, assistant scout master; Harry William Roberts, senior patrol leader; John Andrew Stafford, quartermaster; R. A. Thompson and Carl Wessel, patrol leaders. Wednesdays nights.

BOYS' CLUB.—George D. Emery, director; Frank A. Turner, assistant; William Hill, president. Wednesdays.

JUNIOR AUXILIARY.—Miss Moffatt in charge. Fridays.

FRIDAY SALES.—Mrs. Anne E. Barnard in charge.

CULTURE CLASSES.—Mrs. James Sheerin, Mrs. Minnie Nicoll Daley, Mrs. Henry Ernest Rowe, Miss Sadie Barry, and George B. Heaton, directors; Benjamin A. Knapp, instructor. Tuesdays.

ENDOWMENTS AND GIFTS.

MARTHA TERBY FUND, May 3, 1827	\$50.00
(Care Trustees of Donations. Interest annually to Rector.)	
JOSEPH C. STOREY FUND, Bequest of 1914, in care of Diocesan Trustees of Donations	10,000.00
WILLIAM HENRY STOREY FUND, remainder of contested Bequest of \$10,000.00 in 1915	2,857.13
(Not yet received.)	
AGNES H. SMITH RECTORY FUND. Remainder of bequest of 1896, for taxes and repairs	4,280.48
(Care of Trustees of Donations.)	
JAMES WOOD FUND, Bequest of 1900, for the poor of the Parish	1,000.00
(Care Trustees of Donations.)	
ELIZABETH MELVILLE BARRY ALTAR FUND, Bequest of 1915. (Used for memorial books, etc.)	150.00
MRS. JAMES CRANE, Bequest of 1914	50.00
(Used in part for Chalice.)	

ELIZABETH A. CLAPP FUND, Bequest May 1, 1915. Used in current expenses	\$100.00
(It was Miss Clapp who painted the five oil portraits in the vestry room.)	
MRS. HANNAH NICHOLSON EARL, Bequest of 1909, used on Parish debt	100.00
PARISH HOUSE FUND, proceeds of Mary Blake Horne Bible Play	200.00
MRS. ELIZABETH S. MORTON Legacy (executor was Thompson Baxter, a grandson of Abraham Gould, first warden)	1,919.03
(Principal carefully used "in aid of parochial expenditures," as the will directed about 1890.)	
HENRY W. NELSON Gift	1,000.00
(Cancelled in 1891 a parish note given in 1873 for the Bishop's Support Fund, at 7% annual interest.)	

MEMORIALS AND GIFTS.

THE ALTAR. "In memory of JAMES F. SMITH, 1891," given by Mrs. Agnes H. Smith.

The Altar Rail. "In memoriam HENRY W. NELSON, for thirty-nine years warden of this parish. Died in 1896, in his eighty-eighth year."

The Altar Book is a gift of the GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY, Easter, 1910.

The Altar Cross. "In memory of SAMUEL and ELIZABETH FORD, 1887."

The Alms Basin, Vases, and Lectern were gifts of Dr. Wright's Bible Class from 1881 to 1886.

A Chalice and Paten. "In memory of MARGARET RIDLEY THAYER, 1835-1892."

A Chalice. "In loving memory of SARAH ANN CRANE. Died 1914."

THE BRASS BAPTISMAL EWER, given by William C. Nicholson, with the stone stand, in memory of his wife, ROSA A. S. NICHOLSON.

The Wall Tablet, near Lectern, is "In loving memory of JOSEPH HART CLINCH, D.D. Born Jan. 30, 1806; died July 5, 1884."

A Private Communion Set, the gift of CAROLINE NASH BRYAN, is inscribed, "Thank Offering, St. Matthew's Church, June 20, 1906."

Prayer Book and Hymnal Sets in Chancel are gifts of the ELIZABETH MELVILLE BARRY FUND. A large Bible presented to Dr. Clinch was given to the Church by his grandson, William C. Bond.

The Vestry Safe is a memorial to MARTHA CHAPIN HILL.

NOTES ON CENTENNIAL OBSERVANCES.

MARCH 31—JUNE 23, 1916.

[These notes were in type by June 10th, therefore it is possible that corrections are necessary in the later records for historical accuracy. If so, they can be written in by those interested. It should be added, also, that the year 1915-16 was regarded as the "centennial year." Sermons were preached with that end in view, and frequent meetings held with the hope of quickening interest in the old parish. On December 8, 1915, the then Governor, his excellency David I. Walsh, a personal friend of the rector, came over and addressed a gathering of 500 parishioners, urging that the best way to show appreciation for the Church of the past was to be loyal and helpful to the Church of the present and future.]

March 31.—A service commemorating the first service recorded in South Boston was held Friday, March 31, 1916, at 8 p.m. The Suffragan Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Samuel G. Babcock, D.D., presided and spoke of the parish history and its relations to the Diocese and the Church at large. The Rev. Ernest J. Dennen, Archdeacon of Boston, spoke of its relations to the city. Mr. Huntington Saville spoke of the duty of a layman in such a work. Regrets of the Rev. Reginald Heber Howe, D.D., who had been ill all winter, were read; also those of the Rev. Dr. Henry W. Nelson, D.D., the Rev. Professor Warner F. Gookin and the Rev. Reuben Kidner. The service was opened by the Rev. Albert Crabtree, Vicar of the Church of the Redeemer, now chaplain to prisoners; the lesson read by the Rev. Charles Harden McCurdy, Vicar of Grace Church; and the Creed and prayers by the Rev. Frederick B. Allen, financial secretary of the Episcopal City Mission. After the service, in the School Room down stairs, Mr. Robert S. Rogers, representing the Men's Club, made a speech presenting the handsome frame of his own construction, and Mr. Henry B. Kelley presented his painting of "The Old Church in 1853," which was accepted by Mr. Daniel E. Bryan, speaking for the wardens and vestry. The Bostonian Society appointed Ezra H. Baker and Charles F. Read to represent it. Mr. Read made a congratulatory address. Following some interesting historical remarks by the Rev. F. B. Allen, refreshments were served.

May 28.—Dahlgren Post 2, G. A. R., with the Woman's Relief Corps, Sons of Veterans, Camp 98, Daughters of Veterans, Tent 63, were present at the morning service. The rector preached.

June 4.—The Rev. Ernest N. Bullock, Archdeacon of New Mexico, and former rector, preached morning and night.

June 11.—The Sunday School took part in the morning services, and at night Protestant Churches in South Boston joined us in Evening Prayer. Addresses were made by the Rev. Clarence W. Dunham, of the Phillips Congregational Church; the Rev. Charles E. Davis, St. John's M. E. Church; the Rev. James Huxtable, of the Hawes Unitarian Church; and the Rev. Lucius R. Paige, of the Church of Our Father, Universalist.

June 18.—The Rev. William J. Cordick, rector of St.

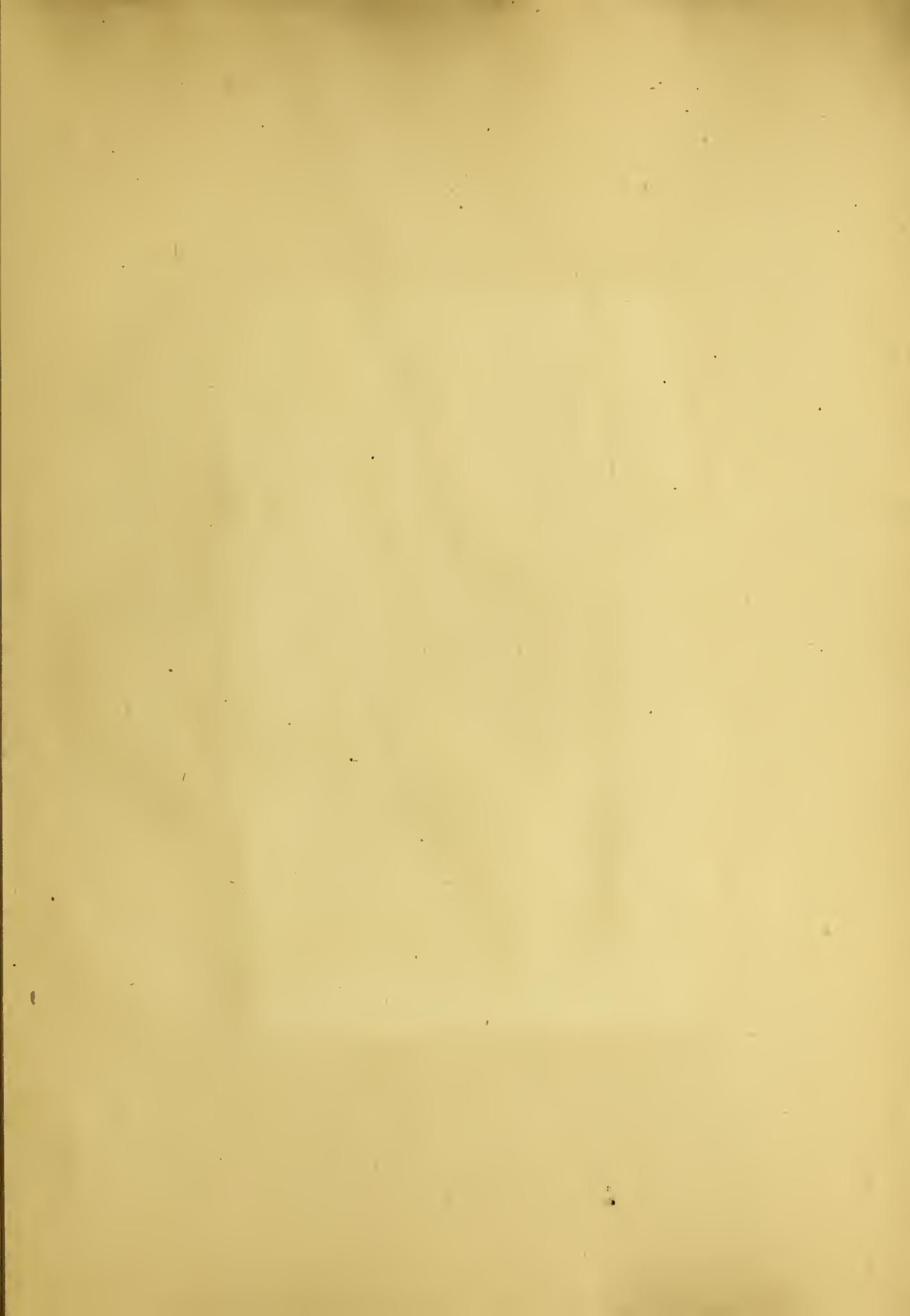
Thomas Church, Plymouth, Indiana, preached at the morning service as the representative of boys who went into the ministry from this parish. At night we had as guests Bethesda Lodge of Odd Fellows, Roland Glazier, Noble Grand; Mt. Washington Encampment, James T. Carter, Chief Patriarch; Bernice Rebekah Lodge, Mrs. James T. Glover, Noble Grand; George A. Gray, P. G., Chairman Committee. Sermon by the rector.

June 20.—A reception was held in the basement of the Church, with the Governor, his excellency Samuel W. McCall, the Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House extending greetings on the part of the State in honor of the Act of Incorporation signed June 20, 1816.

June 24.—St. John Baptist Day, at 10.30 a.m., a commemoration of the first announcement to the congregation of the parish's incorporation and in renewal of the consecration service of the first Church held on this day in 1818, when the Rev. Dr. Gardiner of Trinity Church, and the Rev. Asa Eaton of Christ Church, known as "the Old North Church," assisted in the Holy Communion, with the sermon preached by the Rt. Rev. Alexander Viets Griswold, D.D. To-day the sermon was by Bishop Griswold's successor, the Rt. Rev. William Lawrence, D.D., Bishop of Massachusetts, assisted in the Holy Communion by the Rev. Alexander Mann, D.D., successor to Dr. Gardiner, and the Rev. William H. Dewart, successor to Mr. Eaton. The clergy of the Diocese and other friends were guests, and a "collation," as in 1818, was served to all.

June 25.—At the morning service the Rev. John Wright, D.D., former rector, preached and administered the Holy Communion, assisted by his friend the Rev. William Copley Winslow, D.D., and others, in memory of its first celebration on the last Sunday of June, 1816. The Church of the Redeemer and Grace Church congregations joined in this service, the Rev. Ernest J. Dennen, Archdeacon of Boston, and the Rev. C. H. McCurdy, Vicar, being present.

At night there were present members of the three South Boston lodges of A. F. and A. M., Adelphi, Gate of the Temple, and St. Paul's, together with St. Matthew's Royal Arch Chapter, Knights Templar, and other affiliated branches of Masonry. The sermon was by the rector, and an address by Dr. Wright.



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